

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action is respectfully solicited.

New claim 17 is supported by originally filed Claim 2. New Claim 18 is based on Example 2.

The Examiner has alleged that the claims are directed to four different groups of inventions, defined as follows:

Group I Claim 1-7

Group II Claims 8-14

Group III Claim 15

Group IV Claim 16.

At page 3, paragraph 5, the Examiner also requires an election of species.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement, although the examiner has provided reasons for restriction and reasons for insisting on restriction.

For the purposes of response, applicants elect the Claims of Group II for purposes of examination. Furthermore, applicants elect the 2-methoxyethyl-(N-4-nitrophenyloxycarbonyl)phenylalanine of Example 2.

Reconsideration and an early examination are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Marina V. Schneller

Registration No. 26,032

VENABLE

Post Office Box 34385

Washington, DC 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 962-4062

Telefax: (202) 962-8300

#286572